

Application No. 09/914,206
Amdt. dated Nov. 4, 2005
Reply to Office Action of August 12, 2005

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REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The withdrawn of the objection to the disclosure is gratefully acknowledged.

The withdrawal of the prior art rejection:

- claims 16 and 17 under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by WO 93/18055,
- claims 16 to 18 under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Verrier et al.
- claims 16 to 17 under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Berzofsky et al.
- claim 16 under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Fikes et al is gratefully acknowledged.

The Examiner newly rejected claim 16 under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by US Patent Publication No. 2002/0168374 to Kubo et al. The Examiner indicated that the reference had been cited for disclosing an amino acid sequence which is SEQ ID No: 6. Claim 16 has been amended to delete SEQ ID No: 6 from the scope of the claim. Having regard thereto, it is submitted that claim 16 no longer is open to rejection under 35 USC 102(e) on the basis of US 2002/168374.

The Examiner newly rejected claim 16 under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by WO 97/34617 to Kubo et al. The Examiner indicated that the reference had been cited for disclosing an amino acid sequence which is SEQ ID No: 6. Claim 16 has been amended to delete SEQ ID No:6 from the scope of the claim. Having regard thereto, it is submitted that claim 16 no longer is open to rejection under 35 USC 102(e) on the basis of WO 97/34617.

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The Examiner newly rejected claim 16 under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by US 5,981,706 to Wallen et al. The Examiner indicated that the reference was cited for the disclosure of an amino acid sequence which is SEQ ID No: 12. Claim 16 has been amended to delete SEQ ID No: 12 from the scope of the claim. Having regard thereto, it is submitted that claim 16 is no longer open to rejection under 35 USC 102(e) on the basis of Wallen et al.

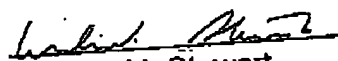
The Examiner indicated that claim 18 was objected to as being dependent on a rejected base claim. Claim 18 has been rewritten in independent form. It is submitted that claim 18 now is in an allowable form.

The Examiner considered that claim 16 limited in the manner now presented, would be considered allowable.

Entry of this Amendment after Final Action is requested in that the claims have been amended to the scope considered by the Examiner to be allowable.

It is believed that this application is now in condition for allowance and early and favourable consideration and allowance are respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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